

# Governor Campbell's

## First Message to the General Assembly of Ohio.

### The New Executive Discusses Many Interesting Topics.

Among them are the Following: The Election Laws, Ballot Reform, Home Rule, the Intermediate Penitentiary, Care of the Idiots, Uniform Commerce Law, Forestry, Etc.

#### To the General Assembly:

It is assumed that the outgoing Governor, in his annual message accurately informed you of the financial condition of the State; and, in other respects, fully discharged his constitutional obligations. The duty involving on the incoming Governor, therefore, is to supplement the annual message by such suggestions as may, to him, seem pertinent.

#### HOME RULE.

In compliance with this duty your attention is directed to various laws, passed in recent years, enlarging the authority of the chief executive. He has been empowered thereby to appoint boards, which, in a large extent, the government and expenditures of certain cities. This was deemed so clear a violation of the right of self-government that one of the political parties embodied in its last platform the following declaration: "We demand the enactment of laws that will enable our cities to choose their own servants, and control their own affairs." The people of Ohio, at the subsequent election, approved that sentiment. It is the duty of the General Assembly to obey their mandate and restore home rule to all cities as speedily as may be done without any inconsiderate legislation. It is not necessary to recite the many cogent reasons which prompted the people to this action. It is sufficient to know that they have so decreed.

THE CITY OF CINCINNATI.

The perplexing problem of government to substitute in the city of Cincinnati for that now enforced, which has proven faulty in many respects other than those arising from gubernatorial interference. In that city exist endless divisions of authority, and consequent confusion and inefficiency, resulting, naturally, in extravagant and incompetent rule. Apparently no attempt has been made to construct a homogeneous form of government. Officers and boards have been created by patchwork, from year to year, until they aggregate more than a score of independent departments. They are appointed at haphazard by the mayor, the Governor, the various courts, or by council. This lack of system has unavoidably led to confusion and mismanagement. In justice to the people of that city, as well as in furtherance of sound political principles, you should carefully consider, mature and formulate a charter which will give them an opportunity to manage their affairs through officers chosen solely by themselves. It may not be convenient, or even possible, to operate an entirely new form of government from the first of January, 1901; but in event of such delay, prompt action should be taken to correct the grosser defects of the existing government. Some immediate changes are absolutely needed and the following are cited as instances: The board of equalization, a body long since discredited and corrupt, should be abolished, and re-created in such a manner as to invite and deserve public confidence. The board of work house directors, heretofore accused of releasing prisoners from improper motives, can be spared without injury, and its duties added to the police commission. The discharge of work house prisoners before the termination of their sentences should be prohibited unless such release be approved by the judge and prosecuting attorney of the police court.

The Board of Public Affairs, now an appointive board, should be constituted that, hereafter, one member be elected by the people every year. The membership of the Board of Revision should be radically changed, and a non-partisan board of high character substituted. With the foregoing changes, and such others as your wisdom may suggest for present action, the city of Cincinnati might get along passably well until a comprehensive revision of the laws can be adopted.

Two plans of reorganization meet with more or less favor among the people of that city, and both should be thoroughly studied and digested before you take the final action.

There is but little doubt that, under the quickened public spirit aroused by existing conditions, the people of Cincinnati would rise to the occasion, and, in a better and more honest manner than has been possible in the past, they would accept of the new government by the interference of any outside authority, however conscientiously exercised. It is worth a trial to give them control of their municipal affairs. Not to do so is to confess that local self-government is a failure.

While considering what ought to be done for that city, you should investigate the whole subject of municipal reform, with a view of conferring upon other cities of the State such advantages as may be salutary. It is your duty to afford speedy relief to that city, and, in any respect, to gubernatorial control.

#### ELECTION LAWS.

It is well to remember that no reform in government, municipal or otherwise can be successful unless every election is secured a free, secret, untrammeled and unimpaired ballot, which shall be honestly counted and returned. Improvements have been made in our election laws during the last few years, yet all of the legislation upon that subject has not been commendable. The establishment of non-partisan election boards was a step in the right direction; but depriving them of the right to appoint their clerks was a step in the wrong direction. There has been also some obvious omissions to improve the election laws—for instance, the failure to provide that the two clerks of election, in each voting precinct, must be of opposite political affiliations. Nothing that has proven beneficial should be undone, but additional enactments are needed. Our election laws are far from perfect, and those who profess to believe that they are not capable of amendment have failed to study the great reforms made in other States.

#### BALLOT REFORM.

The system of ballot reform commonly called the "Australian System," has been successfully adopted, in varying forms, by eighty-five millions of people. It has been tried five years in Norway, seven in England and Italy, twelve in Belgium, fourteen in Canada and thirty in Australia. It has been adopted, with sundry modifications, in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Indiana, Wisconsin, Mississippi, Tennessee, Missouri, Montana, Michigan, Connecticut and part of Kentucky. One of the most thorough trials of the system was at the recent election in Massachusetts. The late Governor of that State testifies in print that "No one would seriously consider the repeal of this election law and consequent return to the old election methods. One of all shades of political opinion agree that the measure has worked well, and that it is a permanent part of the statutes of Massachusetts." In its main principles, it is beyond criticism. The United States Marshal, belonging to a political party in opposition to the Governor, has written the following: "Let me say that the

system is most admirable in its workings. There is no more bulldozing of our manufacturers. They can not march their men to the polls under a foreman and vote them all for one ticket. It does away with everything that makes politics disreputable." This it will be seen that the great political parties, and of best such elements in them as look for purity and reform, are fully satisfied with elections under this plan. The cardinal features of the system are: (1) All ballots must be printed and distributed at the public expense; (2) the names of the candidates for the same office must be printed on the same ballot; (3) the ballot must be delivered to the voter within the polling place by sworn officers; (4) only ballots so delivered can be voted; (5) the voter is guaranteed absolute privacy in preparing his ballot; and (6) its secrecy is made compulsory. The foregoing requirements are modified and altered in detail to suit the views of the various States and Nations which have adopted them, but the principles here laid down constitute the salient points of advantage over other forms of election. You are recommended to investigate this system, and to introduce it by proper legislation. The details are left to your judgment and experience. The reasons for such action need not be enlarged upon here. It is patent to any one that when the voter is enabled to vote in absolute privacy, and his ballot there is no object in bribing him, because the bribery fails. Equally fruitless would be the attempted intimidation by employers, or political bullies, or any of the craftier forms of coercion.

As to the principal objection made against the system—that it might disfranchise illiterate voters—it may be said that provision can be made for such voter to select one of the ballot clerks to retire with him under severe penalties against divulging what may pass before the following declaration: "We demand the enactment of laws that will enable our cities to choose their own servants, and control their own affairs." The people of Ohio, at the subsequent election, approved that sentiment. It is the duty of the General Assembly to obey their mandate and restore home rule to all cities as speedily as may be done without any inconsiderate legislation. It is not necessary to recite the many cogent reasons which prompted the people to this action. It is sufficient to know that they have so decreed.

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THE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' ORPHANS' HOME has long suffered from defective sanitary conditions. Searching investigation should be made for the cause thereof. A special committee composed of experts, ought to visit the Home at an early day. The appointment of such committee does not necessarily reflect upon the trustees or officers of the Home, for the trouble may arise from causes beyond their control. The matter is too serious to excuse the slightest neglect or delay. The State has no trust more sacred than the care of the orphaned and helpless, and nothing should be left undone to cherish and rear them in health and comfort.

THE SOLDIERS' HOME. The Soldiers' and Sailors' Home is unable to take proper care of inmates who become insane, no proper care being taken for the nursing and management of such cases. If authority were granted by law to remove insane inmates of that institution to the Toledo Asylum there to be maintained at a fixed sum per annum, to be paid by the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, then on half of the expense would be reimbursed to the State by the Federal Government. No provision is made at the Soldiers' Home for employing the minds of inmates, and an appropriation as liberal as the financial condition of the State will bear, should be made for a chapel, an amusement hall and a library.

INTERMEDIATE PENITENTIARY. Owing to the inadequate appropriations, partly caused by the indifference of the last General Assembly, little progress has been made upon the intermediate penitentiary. Speedy completion of a portion of that institution, so that it might be used to a limited extent, would inaugurate needed reforms in administering our penal laws. The class of convicts intended for that place are daily growing less reclaimable by reason of their present environment. The sooner they are removed from the penitentiary to the intermediate the better it will be for them and for society in general. One wing of the building should be finished and occupied at once, so that the labor of the convicts could be utilized in completing the whole. This latter suggestion is made in the hope that it will be taken into consideration by the next General Assembly.

THE BOARD OF STATE CHARITIES.

appropriations for the full and efficient discharge of duties imposed upon it by law," and adds very naturally, that "if the board is to be continued it should be properly supported." The report above referred to contains much valuable information, and many practical suggestions for the improvement of the institution. Of our chief relief to paupers; the separation and employment of persons confined in jails; and the life imprisonment of those incorrigible and professional criminals termed "recidivists," who have been repeatedly convicted. Attention should be given to the question of the portion of the same report devoted to:

CERTAIN CLASSES OF INSANE.

If special provision were made at the Central Asylum for the accommodation of insane criminals it would relieve the Penitentiary of a duty, which, from necessity, is imperfectly discharged. Such criminals, together with insane persons whose mania tends to crime, who have not yet been convicted thereof, should be confined to a building separate from every other, and erected for that purpose. Similar separate buildings should be provided for the epileptic insane. Their complete isolation from other inmates is demanded by humanity and approved by universal experience. This is especially urged by the Board of State Charities on account of the dangerous character of those unfortunate classes, who, on account of their peculiar infirmities, are liable to outbreaks of violence. They could be well cared for in this way at a less cost than by the present method—and economy unites with duty in calling for a change. The Board also strenuously insist upon the:

CUSTODIAL CARE OF IDIOTS.

Their present situation is unsatisfactory. Imbecile youths are taken care of at the institution for that purpose, but adult imbeciles are permitted to be at large. They are found in nearly every county infirmary. Restraint should be put upon them by the State, especially upon the females, in order that the interests in their number may be limited. Besides much better and more humane care could be taken of them, and, by systematic and intelligent teaching, they might become partially self-supporting.

ELECTRICITY.

The application of electricity is rapidly opening new fields of legislation. Unless something be done to prevent the sacrifice of life daily resulting from defective electric wires, the companies which put up and control them will have grown rich and powerful at the expense of the State. Municipalities have attempted to enforce regulations for protection from such dangers, but without satisfactory result. The duty of investigating the generation and distribution of electricity, and the means of preventing accidents, should be prompt and thorough; the result thereof made public, and such action taken as may, in your judgment, throttle this evil in its infancy.

REAL ESTATE APPRAISEMENT.

The decennial reappraisement of real estate will take place during this year. Your attention is called to the necessity for procuring a better and more uniform valuation upon both real and personal property. The subject is one which demands consideration not only as a means of raising revenue for the State, but also as a means of securing justice to citizens whose property is disproportionately assessed. The financial condition of the State, and common fairness combine in demanding a careful revision and equalization of assessments; and it is hoped you may devise some plan for the purpose, which will be a laudable result. The necessity for such action is too obvious to need comment.

CHEAPER SCHOOL BOOKS.

Popular education is the foundation of freedom and prosperity. Knowledge, being power, should be furnished to the people in the most economical and efficient manner. The State builds school houses, provides teachers and controls every detail of education save the furnishing of books. Is there any sound reason why it should not assume this function also? Recent experience in the State of Indiana shows that school books, equal to those in use here, are delivered to the children of that State at thirty-five to fifty per cent. of their former cost. Other States have tried the experiment with apparent success. It seems to be an assured fact that school books can be furnished to the State at a price which will not only be a saving to the State, but will also be a saving to the people. The necessity for such action is too obvious to need comment.

A RAILROAD COMMISSIONER.

The office of Commissioner of Railroads and Telegraphs seems to be a more important one than it is at present. It is difficult to say wherein it has benefited the community. Unless the place be made one of more efficiency and power it might well be abolished. If it were intended to exercise control over the railroads of the State; to hold in check their encroachments upon the public; to investigate and report upon the safety of the lines; and in other ways to regulate the interests of the people, such results could have been much more effectively attained by a Railroad Commission, somewhat similar to that long since adopted in the State of Illinois. A commission of three or five members, elected by the people, would constitute a body of sufficient importance to successfully investigate every question of railroad management affecting life and traffic. Such a plan is in the line of approved administrative methods, provided there be no necessity for the State supervision of railroads.

AGRICULTURE.

The State Board of Agriculture is carrying a total debt of one hundred and thirty thousand dollars at six per cent. interest. This includes what is called the "crop loan" fund, which is a loan to the farmers, and is not a debt of the State. The board can not pay such a rate of interest, nor ought it to do so, inasmuch as the credit of the State is ultimately responsible for the payment of both principal and interest. Either a part of the debt must be paid and the loan repaid, or the "crop loan" fund must be sold, or the debt refunded at a lower rate of interest. Were this latter alternative taken, and the debt placed at a rate which compares with the wealth of the State, the board could pay the annual interest charge upon its entire indebtedness. A serious question in this connection might be asked: Why the appropriations for agriculture have been so meager. The contingent fund has been cut until the board does not have money sufficient to pay postage and expressage upon its annual report, and, in consequence, the matter which should be distributed to the people, the people asking for these publications are intelligent taxpayers, whose desire should have weight with the General Assembly. In the matter of agricultural institutes the appropriation was cut five hundred dollars; whereas, Indiana appropriated five thousand, Minnesota seventy-five hundred, and Wisconsin twelve thousand for that purpose. Ohio inaugurated this system so successfully that it traveled into other States, and it is everywhere doing effective service for the education of the agricultural classes, which is one of the financial condition of the State will permit, and your good sense advise, the making of more liberal appropriations for the encouragement of agriculture.

FORESTRY.

The subject of forestry is one of great interest. The State Forestry Bureau, established in 1885, has done valuable work, but its mission is practically ended. While commending it for what has been done in the past, a different method is demanded for the future. It is thought by those best versed in the matter that the sum heretofore appropriated for the Forestry Bureau might be more judiciously expended in endowing a Chair of Forestry, or a joint Chair of Forestry and Mining, at the Athens University, which is located in a section where forests are needed and mining extensively carried on. It is hardly necessary to say that the forests of Ohio have been destroyed, during the last few years, at a rate exceeding the destruction of forests anywhere in the world. The loss of our forests is producing incalculable damage, and there is, in many counties, a smaller percentage of forested lands than in the most crowded parts of Europe. For this reason the cultivation and preservation of trees is a matter of importance, and is well worthy your attention.

STATE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM.

During the Sixty-eighth General Assembly a bill was introduced to provide for the consolidation of the State Library with the property of the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Society. If passed it would have transferred to the State of Ohio the valuable records, papers,

library, paintings, relics and other property of the society, to be consolidated with the State Library under the name of the Ohio Library and Museum. The trustees were to be empowered to elect a secretary and assistant, who should occupy the positions now held by the State Librarian and Assistant Librarian. It is evident that the State Library would become much more valuable by the acquisition of this collection, and that its management would be much better than at present. Something like this ought to be done in the near future, providing, however, that the State Librarian and Assistant Librarian in office at the time the act is passed, may remain as secretary and assistant secretary of the new library and museum until their terms of office expire.

#### MILITIA.

The National Guard is required to go into camp not to exceed eight days of each year. No uniform system has heretofore been observed. Sometimes they have gone by companies, at other times by regiments, and at others by brigades. Last year the entire guard camped together. The time occupied in transportation of troops, and in preparation for forming and breaking camp, together with the reviews and other camp equipage is large. The General Assembly might advantageously provide for buying or leasing grounds at an accessible point near the center of the State, and erecting there a permanent encampment with all suitable conveniences for a host of instruction. The entire National Guard could be required to camp there, either by regiments or brigades, or as an entire body. The saving of expense would, in a few years, pay for the land and buildings. It is likely that if the permanent camp were located near Columbus, or any other city, the whole cost would be raised by private subscription.

UNIFORM COMMERCIAL LAW.

Merchants, manufacturers, bankers and business men generally are deeply interested in procuring uniform legislation throughout the country upon the subject of Commercial Law. Scarcely a dealer in credits is competent to decide upon the merits of a purchaser, outside of the State in which he himself resides. The American Bar Association has given much time and thought to this question. The National Board of Trade has also deliberated upon it. These bodies have united in an effort to secure two or more official representatives from each State to meet a committee of the National Board of Trade for the purpose of discussing and advising legislation upon the subject. There is no doubt that a uniform code of mercantile law would be of advantage to the business interests of the country, and it seems proper, therefore, to authorize the appointment of such representatives.

Having recommended for your consideration sundry propositions involving increased expenditures, it is proper, before conclusion, to remind you that the estimates presented for the coming year exceed, in the aggregate, the prospective income of the State. Policy of retrenchment should be carefully scrutinized, and, must, of necessity, be reduced when you make the appropriations. It is for your wisdom and experience to decide what items can be wholly spared or safely lessened. While public opinion is so generally in favor of economy, yet it is sparingly condemn wastefulness and extravagance. You may proceed with official functions in the certain assurance that wholesome economy where needed, and prudent liberality where the honor and welfare of the State are concerned, will find ready approval from the people.

JAMES E. CAMPBELL.

#### THE CANAIGRA PLANT.

Its Cultivation on a Large Scale Contemplated in New Mexico.

The extensive cultivation of the canaigra plant, which is found growing without cultivation or irrigation in many portions of the Territory, is contemplated in this section. The tubers produced by this plant yield a large percentage of tannin, superior to that extracted from the hemlock bark, and not inferior to the oak bark product. This plant, like the mesquite, thrives in the driest seasons and in soil where apparently, there is very little moisture. After maturity the tubers dry in the ground, and often remain for years without decaying. The properties of this plant, like the soap weed, the root of which is used by the natives instead of soap, have been known to the natives of New Mexico for years. The properties of the soap weed are only just beginning to be known to Americans. While the Mexicans have used the bruised roots of this plant for toilet and laundry purposes for years without attempting to get it in a more convenient form, enterprising Americans have succeeded in extracting the useful part, and a variety of toilet preparations having the Mexican amole or soap weed as a basis are on the market.

It took years to get the soap-weed into prominence, and now the same thing is proposed for the canaigra plant. Preparations are being made to organize a company at Deming for the purpose of practically demonstrating the value of this plant as a source for obtaining tannin. Unless this plant can be utilized tanneries are an impossibility in New Mexico. Neither oak, hemlock nor sumac can be obtained here at prices which would make their use for tanning purposes profitable. Hides are very cheap, and now have to be shipped several hundred miles to tanneries. The projectors of the scheme at Deming are confident of success and expect to make the enterprise pay from the start. If the cultivation of the canaigra plant can be made successful in any degree, and there appears to be no reason why a plant which grows wild in so many portions of the Territory should not thrive under cultivation, a new and a very profitable industry is open to the people of New Mexico. Unlike most cultivated crops, the canaigra plant needs no irrigation, and consequently lands which can not be irrigated on account of their location can be utilized in the culture of this plant. There is no danger of over-production, for if the supply should ever become greater than the local demand the tannin can be easily extracted from the tubers and shipped wherever desired.—Silver City (N. M.) Letter.

—This account of a Mississippi ball appears in a Memphis paper: "The ball given by the young men of Benoit was universally scored a success by all in attendance. The heavenly spheres shone forth in their transcendent beauty on this Thursday night, seeming in perfect harmony with the brilliancy of the event, and through mud and mire from Greenville to Rosedale the creme de la creme of the Mississippi Delta came to participate in the terpsichorean fete."

—Served Him Right.—Mr. Layman—See here, doctor, you said there wasn't any such disease as hydrophobia. Dr. Schmerz (emphatically)—No, sir, there is not. Mr. Layman—But old Grubbs got it all the same, and last night he died. Dr. Schmerz (meditatively)—Well, a man who goes and catches diseases that don't exist ought to die.—Puck.

## STATE NEWS ITEMS.

### Sixty-Ninth General Assembly.

COLUMBUS, Jan. 8.—SENATE.—Mr. DOROVAN'S House bill, making an appropriation of \$30,000 for the pay of members of the General Assembly, was passed. Mr. Wilson offered a joint resolution requesting the President of the United States to notify the Senate and House at what time it will be most convenient for him to open and publish the returns of the election for State officers. Tabled under notice of Van Cleef to discuss. The Senate then proceeded to the House to meet in joint convention to count the votes cast for State officers.

HOUSE.—A resolution to the memory of Frank W. Knapp was adopted, and committees appointed to attend the funeral. Mr. Knapp represented Deane and Paulding Counties in the House. The vote for State officers was canvassed by the House and Senate in joint session. The canvass makes the majority of Lieutenant-Governor Lamson twenty-three, an increase of one over the official count as published.

COLUMBUS, Jan. 9.—SENATE.—Mr. Shaw offered a resolution of respect to the memory of Frank W. Knapp, of Deane and Paulding Counties, who died Jan. 8, 1900. Messrs. Shaw, Ryan, Sutton, Alexander and Reed were appointed a committee to act in connection with a House committee, to accompany the remains of Mr. Knapp to his late residence and attend the funeral. Mr. Morrison introduced a bill providing for the Australian system of election. Mr. Cole introduced a bill to authorize the Governor to appoint a Canal Commission, to consist of four persons, two from each political party, and to serve for two years, to continue the survey and platting of property belonging to the State. Adjourned until to-morrow.

HOUSE.—Bills introduced: Amend Section 630 so as to increase the number of trustees of county children's homes from three to five, of whom two shall be females; amend Section 5144 relating to the Australian system of election; amend Section 3167, 3169 and 3170, so as to provide for the filing of a certified copy of the appraisal of the estates of deceased persons; amend Section 6233 as amended, authorizing trustees and assignees to sell real estate and personal property, and to compromise any claim due or owing to the assignor; authorize commissioners of Warren County to borrow \$50,000, and appropriate same for various funds to cover delinquency; to provide for a uniform system of cheap school books; to protect quail by preventing shipment out of the State or offering for sale in the State; making it optional with county officers as to publishing real estate and personal property having effect of the first, second and third classes. Adjourned until Monday.

COLUMBUS, Jan. 10.—SENATE.—The Senate met at 10 o'clock. Prayer was offered by Senator Humphrey. Mr. Alexander offered a resolution providing for the use of the Senate Chamber to the State Board of Agriculture for Wednesday next. Adopted. Mr. Van Cleef offered a resolution granting ten days' pay to the clerks of the last Senate for services in instructing the new clerks as to their duties, as provided by the act adopted. A similar resolution was adopted for the benefit of the Sergeant-at-Arms. The Senate adjourned until 10 o'clock Monday morning.

#### HOUSE.—Not in session.

COLUMBUS, Jan. 13.—SENATE.—The following bills were introduced: Providing for the support of the State Prison. Providing for the better regulation of safe deposit companies. Mr. Cole offered a resolution of thanks to Lieutenant-Governor Lyon for the courteous and impartial and able manner in which he has presided over this body, and that in the closing hours of his administration we desire hereby to express our kindly appreciation of his uniform kindness toward the body over which he has so satisfactorily presided. Adopted unanimously. The Senate then recessed until one o'clock, to give the members an opportunity to witness the inaugural ceremonies. The Senate met again at one o'clock, when Lieutenant-Governor-elect Lamson was conducted to the president's stand by the Senate committee and the oath of office was administered to him by Judge Spear, of the Supreme Court. The retiring president, Mr. Lyon, then delivered his farewell address and introduced Lieutenant-Governor Lamson, who spoke briefly, after which the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—On motion of Mr. Hodge, the joint resolution protesting against the erection of a bridge over the St. Clair river at Detroit, taken from committee and adopted by a unanimous vote. Indefinite leave of absence was granted Mr. Blair, Rep., of Adams County, and Mr. Taylor, Rep., of Champaign, on account of sickness. L. A. Griggs, of the report of the State Board of Agriculture, was read and accepted. The House then adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow.

COLUMBUS, Jan. 14.—SENATE.—Bills introduced: To appropriate \$91,562.44 to pay for the salaries of the members of the General Assembly to prevent deception in the sale of dairy products. Bills passed: House bill providing for \$50,000 Warren County deficiency bonds. Senate bill authorizing Toledo to sell natural gas bonds at private sale. Resolution offered: For a non-partisan commission of five members to establish the Australian ballot system. Resolution adopted: S. J. R. asking Congress to make liberal appropriations to improve the channels and harbors of the great lakes.

HOUSE.—Bills introduced: To secure the release of the hydraulic press in the second and third classes; to amend Section 547 so as to exempt females from the class privileged from arrest for debt arising from contract; to create a lien on horses or other animals held or kept by parties other than the owner; to give preference in employment in State departments to honorably discharged soldiers; to increase the number of directors of banks other than National from five to eleven; to prevent employers under the semi-monthly pay act from giving credits on banknotes more than eight days from the date of payment; anti-trust bill. Bills passed: House bill for \$100,000 waterworks bond at Coshocton; Senate bill authorizing Toledo to sell natural gas bonds at private sale. Resolution offered for tri-weekly adjournment beginning on Friday. Resolution adopted for a joint convention at noon to-morrow to elect a Senator. The House Committees on Corporations, Ditches, Drains and Water Courses, Insane Asylums, Boys Industrial School and Fees and Salaries were appointed.

JOHN MAAS was killed at Hamilton, by a ball from his own pistol. It is not known whether it was done accidentally or intentionally.

JEREMIAH SMITH, of Morgan County, has a cat which is known by the neighbors as "solar spectrum." From the tip of its tail to the end of its nose there are distributed all the colors of the rainbow, and there are several shades of violet on the fore legs.

M. S. SMITH, traveling salesman, was found dead in his room at Lima.

JAMES M. DETRICK, a prominent farmer of Logan County, was killed by a falling tree.

OTTO LEUTH, the young Cleveland murderer, spends his time in the pen playing his violin.

A MAN named Porter and three horses were drowned in the river at Steubenville.

The genuine Kansas blizzard which passed through the vicinity of Lima the other night blew down hundreds of derricks in the oil field and did a great amount of damage to buildings. No lives are reported lost.

DR. J. N. LIGHTS, a prominent physician of Morristown, committed suicide by shooting himself with a revolver.

TUE U. S. COURT decided that the law authorizing Toledo to issue bonds to build a city pipe line is unconstitutional. At East Liverpool Mrs. George Chapman rushed through flames to save her baby from the burning house. The child will die and its mother be disgraced for life.

## FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

### First Session.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—SENATE.—After some routine morning business, Mr. Voorhees called upon the resolution offered by him yesterday, in relation to the alleged interference by Indiana, Chambers, the U. S. District Attorney at Indianapolis, to prevent the arrest of W. W. Dudley on a charge of violation of the election laws of Indiana, and proceeded to address the Senate. Mr. Edmunds offered an amendment for the preamble and made it read: "That the Attorney General be and hereby is instructed to inform the Senate what instructions, if any, the Department of Justice has given to S. N. Chambers, District Attorney for the District of Indiana, on the subject of the arrest of W. W. Dudley, or his exemption from arrest; and by what authority of law any such instructions have been given, and that copies of all such correspondence be transmitted to the Senate." The amendment was agreed to by a party vote (31 to 24).

HOUSE.—The House went into committee of the whole. Mr. Burrows (Ohio), in the chair, for the further consideration of the District of Columbia appropriation bill. On a point of order by Mr. Atkinson (Pa.), the clause was struck from the bill which requires private electric lighting wires to be placed under ground. On a point of order by Mr. Atkinson (Pa.), the clause was struck out which authorizes the commissioners of the District to impose a license fee of twenty-five dollars a year against any person or corporation for each telegraph or telephone pole maintained. The committee rose and the bill was passed. A bill was introduced by Mr. Crain (Tex.), providing that the terms of members of Congress shall begin on January 1. Adjourned until Friday.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—SENATE.—The Vice-President laid before the Senate a communication from Attorney-General Miller in response to the resolution adopted by the Senate yesterday. The Attorney-General states that no instructions oral or written, have been given to District-Attorney S. N. Chambers, on the subject of the arrest of W. W. Dudley. Mr. Dolph, from the Committee on Commerce, reported back the bill for the construction of a revenue cutter for service on the Pacific Coast; also the bill to prevent the obstruction of the navigable waters of the United States and to protect public works from trespass. Calendar. On motion of Mr. Crain, a joint resolution was passed appropriating \$25,000 for the removal of obstructions to navigation in the Missouri river, between St. Joseph, Mo., and the mouth. Mr. Davis, of Minnesota, called up for consideration the bill appropriating \$3,738,000 for the improvement of St. Mary's and St. Ignace rivers, and \$64,000 for the improvement of Hay Lake, Channel, Mich. Referred to Committee of Commerce. Mr. Call called up a resolution directing the Secretary of the Interior to report all the evidence in the General Land Office relative to the swamp lands in the State of Florida, and the Commissioner of the land office, based his charge of fraud in the selection of such lands. Pending action on the resolution the Senate went into secret session, and then adjourned until Monday.

#### HOUSE.—Not in session.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—SENATE.—Not in session.

HOUSE.—After the announcement of the death of Representative Kelley, suitable resolutions were adopted, and the House at 12:15 p. m. adjourned. The resolutions provide for funeral services in the hall of the House at noon to-morrow.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—SENATE.—Mr. Turpie gave notice that he would speak Wednesday next on the resolution to recognize Brazil. Bills were reported. A bill to authorize a railroad bridge across the Missouri river between Nebraska and Iowa was passed. Mr. Plumb addressed the Senate on the Alaska seal lease, after which the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—A bill was reported from the Siltcut Investigating Committee appropriating \$75,000 to supply the deficiency created by the defalcation in the pay and mileage of the members. A minority report was also submitted. Bills were introduced under the call of States. The bill to provide for town site entries in Oklahoma was discussed, and at 3:15 p. m. the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—SENATE.—Among the bills reported from committee and placed on the calendar were the following: To declare unlawful trusts and combinations in restraint of trade and production. Authorizing the purchase of a site for a building for the Supreme Court. Mr. George offered a resolution instructing Committee on Finance to inquire into the propriety of reducing the penal bonds required of manufacturers of cigars in all cases, or (at least) where the manufacture is carried on by the manual labor of the manufacturer. Referred. The resolutions heretofore offered by Mr. Call in relation to the claim of Florida on the swamp land grant, and in relation to the alleged unlawful selection of land in Florida, were taken up, and Mr. Call addressed the Senate upon them.

HOUSE.—Mr. Bingham (Pa.) introduced a bill for marking the lines of battle and the position of the troops of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia at Gettysburg, Pa. Referred. Mr. Perkins (Kas.) moved that the House go into committee of the whole for the consideration of the bill to provide for town site entries of lands in Oklahoma. This was antagonized by Mr. Adams (Ill.), who wished the bill to be referred to the Siltcut matter, and the motion was defeated—65 to 57. A general debate ensued on the proposition to appropriate \$75,000 to make up the deficiency. Pending further debate the House, at 5 p. m., adjourned.

#### News Items.

Two freight trains on the South Chester railroad collided. Engineer S. W. Slate and Fireman Gibson, of Bellows Falls, Vt., were killed, and others were injured.

ARTHUR S. KNIFFEN, the dentist whose wife was found dead in bed at her home in Trenton, N. J., Friday morning, made an ineffectual attempt to commit suicide, on the 6th, by cutting his throat and taking poison.

A RECEIVER has been appointed for the furniture house of R. Deimel & Bros. at Chicago. The debts amount to \$300,000 and the assets to about \$300,000.

WHILE suffering from influenza, Henry Klein, a Franco-Prussian veteran, sought his wife's grave in a Long Island cemetery, and blew his head off with a gun.

Six ex-State Treasurers, of Colorado, have been sued for about \$100,000 each, to recover interest on the State's money they had loaned to banks.

JAMES W. HUSTED has been named by the Republican caucus as Speaker of the New York House of Representatives. It will be his sixth term.

A HOT spring, whose waters have valuable medical properties, has been discovered on the shore of Lake Garda, one of the most popular of Italian resorts.

CHAS. GRAY was run over by a shifting engine near Coal Valley, W. Va., and had both his legs cut off. He died.

A SOUTH Carolina mob assaulted a British subject and his wife, and the case will be laid before Sir Julian Pauncefote, who will confer with Secretary Blaine.

At Williamsport, Pa., Mrs. Bohart frolicked with her mother. A shotgun thrown to the floor was discharged. The load tore a hole two inches long through Mrs. Bohart's breast.

A PROPOSITION has been made in the Virginia House of Delegates to revive whipping as a mode of punishment for petty thieves.

DAN McLEAN was acquitted, at Greenville, Miss., of the murder of two men named Aston and Levi.